

# FIRST TANK BATTLE IN HISTORY IS WON BY CARS OF BRITISH

**BULLDOG GRIP OF ENGLISH AT YPRES  
REMAINS UNSHAKEN DESPITE FURIOUS  
ONSLAUGHTS OF HUNS WHOSE  
LOSS IS REPORTED APPALLING.**

The loss of Mount Kemmel evidently has failed to disorganize in any way the Allied resistance in the Ypres region. The line in fact has been stiffened since this isolated height was taken by the Germans, and the enemy after a day of desperate struggle yesterday found himself held fast everywhere.

Loire, west of Mount Kemmel, and Voormezelle, two miles south of Ypres, were the chief points under attack by the Germans in their vain effort to develop their success of the previous day. At each, although the fighting fluctuated during the day, the enemy failed to gain his objectives and today is no farther advanced toward them than he was yesterday morning.

The French fought with great gallantry in the Loire sector, inflicting severe losses on the enemy in his four attacks, the last of which carried him into the village. Last evening the French counter attacked vigorously and regained the place.

## BRITISH STILL HOLD RIDGE

The British were no less stubborn in their defense of Voormezelle, at which point they were obliged to hold fast if the line, curving to the east and north around Ypres, was not to be abandoned. Today found them still in possession of the village and holding fast on the ridge southwest of the town. Several hundred prisoners were taken by the British in this fighting.

There seems a quite general disposition on the part of the military observers to forecast the eventual abandonment of the Ypres salient as a result of the fall of Mount Kemmel. It has been pointed out by the British war office that this result will not necessarily follow. It is likewise observed, however, that, should an evacuation of Ypres become necessary, the taking of Mount Kemmel has not destroyed the defensive value of the range of hills to the west from which it stood out, and which have been referred to as the backbone of the Flanders position. Meanwhile the cost in men to the Germans in the progress they have made without winning more than a tactical advantage has been enormous.

## SOMME SITUATION FAVORABLE

On the Somme battle front the situation has worked still more favorably for the Allies. The recapture of Villers Bretonneux and its dominating high ground by the British has made the German tenure of Hangard to the south, extremely precarious, and they already have lost part of the village. London reports a further advancement of the Allied line last night in this sector. An attack by German tanks was broken up by the British fire. More than 900 prisoners were taken by the British in the fighting here.

The fall of Mount Kemmel is a serious blow to the security of the salient about Ypres, but to gain a complete victory there the Germans must strike quickly. This they are trying to do while the Allied troops resist strenuously. While Kemmel's capture by the enemy does not mean the immediate evacuation of Ypres, military observers say it does menace the British positions there and a further retirement in the next few days is not unlikely.

Southwest of Ypres the Germans now are on a line running from the northwest of Bailleul through Loire to La Clyte and eastward to the Ypres-Comines canal.

## BERLIN CLAIMS OCCUPATION

Field Marshal Haig admits a retirement along the canal and Berlin claims the occupation of St. Eloi, two and a half miles south of Ypres. Berlin also says that the prisoners in the present Flanders battle have increased to 6,500.

Kemmel hill did not fall without a struggle and it remains a monument to the bravery of a French regiment which, cut off from the Allied line, held out until surrounded on all sides by the Germans. The ultimate fate of the French defenders, fighting tremendous odds, is not known to the Allies. Franco-British troops attempted strong counter attacks to retake the hill, but were driven back by the Germans, who are using nine divisions on a front of about eight miles.

The German attack in the north, unless it can gather much greater momentum, does not yet threaten the Belgian line from Dixmude to the sea, although it does affect the British about Ypres. The enemy must advance still farther before the Belgians will be compelled to give up the historic line of the Yser, which they have held for so many months.

Successes were gained by Allied troops in a counter stroke south of the Somme from Villers Bretonneux to south of Hangard. The Germans were driven back all along the line and most furious fighting raged on Hangard, the western quarter of which is now held by the French. South of the Luce the French also gained enemy positions and the fighting still goes on.

## RIVAL TANKS COME TO GRIPS

This success was aided greatly by the fact that the British had recaptured Villers Bretonneux on Thursday. The fighting in and around Villers Bretonneux, the scene of a battle in the war of 1870, will be notable for two things. In it British and German tanks met for the first time and the Germans were worsted, while British infantry wearing gas masks for probably the first time in an attack, retook the village from the Germans who had hurriedly donned gas masks under a heavy attack of gas shells.

Gen. Radcliffe, director of military operations at the British war office, anticipates an enemy offensive on a bigger scale than yet attempted in a great effort to break the junction of the British and the French armies. He thinks this will fall on the line from the Arras to the Somme. Fighting will continue through the summer and man power reserve will bring victory. Gen. Foch, according to Gen. Radcliffe, still has the Allied reserve almost intact.

The London war office statement follows:

## GREAT ARTILLERY ACTIVITY

"There was great artillery activity on both sides during the night on the whole battle front north of the Lys river. The fighting in this area yesterday was very severe, the enemy making repeated and determined attempts to develop the advantage gained by him on the preceding day. After many

# HUNS THREATEN WAR ON HOLLAND

**BRITISH NEEDS  
MORE STRENGTH  
TO WIN BATTLES**

**London Press Makes Comment on Wastage of Men in Flanders Battle.**

London, April 27.—Commenting on the Flanders battle in serious tone the morning newspapers contend that the situation imposes on Great Britain the necessity of putting forth the utmost effort, especially of furnishing more men to supply the wastage in the ceaseless fighting.

"We are faced with a crisis more perilous and momentous than any that has arisen, even in this appalling war," writes the military correspondent of the Daily Telegraph. "Possession of the channel ports by the enemy would make our task on land and sea infinitely more intricate and costly."

The News, in an editorial, says the situation has changed seriously for the worse as a result of the fighting of the last two days, and that the German drive toward the channel is a matter of serious concern. Nevertheless, it regards the situation as in nowise yet stabilized and says that if the Germans mean to break through they must do it quickly before American reinforcements finally turn the tide.

The effect of the capture of Mount Kemmel on the situation at Ypres is canvassed anxiously by some papers. The Chronicle thinks Ypres could be held despite the loss of Mount Kemmel, but the tenure would be costly and precarious. It tropes it will be found possible to dislodge the enemy as at Villers Bretonneux. Otherwise, it says, a further withdrawal of the Ypres line may be desirable. The Chronicle contends, however, that the present value of Ypres is only secondary.

The Mail says it would be folly to minimize the success the enemy has achieved and if the loss of Kemmel should prove permanent, the difficulty in holding Ypres would be increased materially. It concludes by urging the necessity of maintaining the supply of men.

**MAJOR LUFBERRY  
AMERICAN ACE  
HAS DOWNED 18**

Paris, April 27.—The standing of American aviators based on the number of adversaries shot down to date follows:

Major Raoul Lufberry, 18; Major William Shaw, 5; Lieut. Frank Bar, 5; Sergeant Bayles, 5; Capt. Charles Biddle, 2; Sergeant Vernon Booth, 2; Sergeant August Grehore, 2; Lieut. Henry Grendelass, 2; Thos. Hitchcock, Lieut. Friest Lerner, 2; David Putnam, 2; Sgt. W. A. Wellman, Lieut. Allan Winslow and Lieut. Douglas Campbell, one each.

**183 AMERICANS  
TAKEN, SAY HUNS**

Amsterdam, April 27.—A Berlin dispatch says the names of 183 Americans whom the Germans report they captured in the recent battle at Selcheprey, in the St. Mihiel sector, will be published in the Fuzille des Ardennes, a German propaganda organ published in French. This will be done, the dispatch says, because doubts have been expressed outside of Germany that prisoners in such numbers were taken.

hours of fluctuating battle the enemy's advance was held at all points. Heavy casualties were suffered by his troops in the course of his many unsuccessful attacks.

"The enemy's assaults on the French positions from Loire to La Clyte were pressed with extreme violence and after three attacks had been beaten off with great loss to him his troops succeeded at the fourth attempt in carrying the village of Loire. In the neighborhood of Voormezelle, which after a prolonged out, regaining possession of the village. At other points all the enemy's attacks were repulsed.

## PRISONERS ARE CAPTURED

"Fierce fighting took place north of Kemmel village, and in the neighborhood of Voormezelle, which after a prolonged struggle, remains in the hands of our troops. In the afternoon the enemy again heavily attacked our positions at the ridge wood southwest of Voormezelle, and was completely repulsed. Some hundreds of prisoners were captured by us in this fighting.

"Local fighting also took place yesterday afternoon on the Lys battle front in the neighborhood of Givenchy, as a result of which 40 prisoners were captured by us.

"South of the Somme the fighting continued during the afternoon, to the advantage of the Allies, in the Hangard-Villers Bretonneux sector. Our line was again advanced at certain points and hostile attack with tanks early in the afternoon was broken up by our fire and failed to develop. The number of prisoners captured by us in this area is over 900.

"Successful raids were carried out by us during the night in the neighborhood of Arleux (northeast of Arras) and in the Vieux Berquin sector (southeast of Hazebrouck). We captured 20 prisoners."

The French war office statement follows: "During the night the artillery battle was continued along the front between Villers Bretonneux and Hangard. There was no change in the situation.

"The Germans attacked our defenses on the line of the railroad west of Thennes, but were not able to approach our positions.

"We carried out successful raids in the region of the Oise canal, near the Loire and northeast of Carnillet, and took a number of prisoners.

"The artillery fighting was rather severe on the right bank of the Meuse (Verdun front).

"We have recaptured positions from Loire to La Clyte, in Flanders west of Mount Kemmel."

**ADD ANOTHER VICTIM  
TO MURDERER'S LIST**

**DAUGHTER OF ONE OF SCHMIDT'S WIVES TELLS POLICE  
HOW HER MOTHER DISAPPEARED—FATHER  
SAID SHE HAD GONE ABROAD**

Detroit, April 27.—Anita Schmidt, the woman who came to America as the wife of Helmut Schmidt, and Margaret Darsch, who lived with Schmidt in Lakewood, N. J., were added today to the list of women entangled in the mystery surrounding the man, who last Tuesday took his own life in the Highland Park jail after confessing that he had burned the body of Augusta Steinbach after she had swallowed poison at his home.

This information developed after questioning by authorities of Mrs. Adele Ulrich-Braun, who married Schmidt, then known as Braun, in Lakewood, in 1914, and Gertrude Schmidt's 17 year old daughter. According to the girl, there was a love affair between her father and the Darsch woman which developed shortly before her mother disappeared. Schmidt told his daughter that

her mother, Anita Schmidt, had returned to Germany. Soon afterward when Miss Darsch disappeared, Schmidt explained to his daughter that she had "married and gone to Denmark."

So far the police have been unable to trace Schmidt's first wife, Margaret Darsch, or Irma Pallatius, the latter having disappeared after becoming Schmidt's housekeeper at his home here.

Mrs. Ulrich Braun, who came here to claim the body of the dead man, permitted Schmidt's daughter to take charge of the funeral arrangements when told that such action would not jeopardize her widow's rights to Schmidt's estate or the \$3,500 which she contends he stole from her before and after their marriage. Among Schmidt's effects was found a life insurance policy for \$6,000.

**RUSS LABOR TO  
MAKE 'PLANES  
FOR TEUTONS**

London, April 27.—In urging the British nation to an increased output of aeroplanes, the Daily Mail dwells on Russia's defection as affecting the supremacy of the air. Russian aeroplanes, it says, had great reputations in Germany, and some of them had been used as models by German makers.

"The collapse of Russia," it adds, "enables Germany to exploit and turn to its own use all factories and aerodromes in Russia and as many more as Russian labor, now looking around hungrily for a job, can be induced to construct. Factories for the manufacture of certain types of machines are springing up from Petrograd to Moscow, not to mention those already in existence which are or soon will be German."

**WAR VESSELS  
HELP BOSTON  
LIBERTY LOAN**

Cambridge, Mass., April 27.—War vessels from the Boston navy yard were called on today to assist in the Liberty loan campaign here by giving an exhibition of battle maneuvers in the Charles river basin. It was the first time that naval ships had been so far up the river. A sham battle was planned as the climax of a parade which disbanded at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology buildings on the shore of the river basin, where booths for the sale of bonds had been erected.

**GERMAN STEAMER  
BURNED AND SUNK**

Bogota, Colombia, April 27.—The German steamer Prinz Eitel Friedrich, which has been interned in Puerto Colombia, was burned and sunk at her anchorage there yesterday. The steamer was owned by the Hamburg-American line and displaced 4,650 tons.

**TWO KILLED BY  
FARM HAND IN  
ROCHESTER, N. Y.**

Rochester, N. Y., April 27.—Deputy sheriffs are searching the countryside around Victor today for Earl Austin, a farm hand for the murder early today of Mack Mosher, a farmer and his daughter, Blanche, 18 years old. Both were killed with an axe. Austin, who is 40 years old, formerly worked for Mosher on his farm. Neighbors of the Moshers said Austin had been discharged by Mosher because of unwelcome attentions to the daughter. It is believed that Austin was mentally unbalanced.

Geneva, N. Y., April 27.—Earl Austin, who killed Mack Mosher and his daughter in Victor this morning, was caught in Cheshire at noon today by Canadiana police. He made a full confession, the police say.

**GERMAN PAPER  
PRAISES LATEST  
LONG RANGE GUN**

New York, April 27.—The German people are informed that the long range guns now bombarding Paris mark "the greatest progress in the development of firearms since the invention of powder," in a eulogistic article sent out by the semi-official Wolff bureau and published in the German newspapers under a Berlin date on March 28. The Wolff dispatch says:

"In vain our enemies are racking their brains to solve the secret of our giant cannon with which we are bombarding Paris. They believe they have found the solution in an Austrian long barrel cannon."

The Cologne Gazette of March 31, a copy of which has been received here, says:

"The 42 centimetre mortars in August, 1914, smashed fortresses which up until then had been regarded as impregnable. At that moment they began a new period of the construction of fortresses."

"The 31st of March, 1918, brought the technical wonder of the 120 kilometre cannon and with it the beginning of a new era in the history of the construction of cannon which, however, may be of far greater importance on the course of the war and perhaps, for peace, than the 42 centimetre mortars."

**WAITS TO SEE  
SPEED OF AID  
FROM UKRAINE**

London, April 27.—Referring to a meeting of the Reichstag food council in Berlin on Friday, at which the question of reducing the bread ration was discussed, a German official statement received today says:

"It was decided that the present position was not critical enough for the taking of such important measures at this time. The authorities will therefore wait and see how fast grain is imported from the Ukraine. Some transports already have arrived."

**GERMAN MINISTER  
STILL IN HAGUE**

Washington, April 27.—The German minister to the Netherlands still is in The Hague and did not leave for Germany as reported, the Netherlands legation announced today. The Dutch minister to Berlin returned to The Hague, it was said, to discuss with his government the progress of negotiations with Germany.

**TANK EXPLODES  
IN DUPONT WORKS**

Wilmington, Del., April 26.—At the works of the DuPont Powder Co. in Deep Water Point, N. J., at 7:40 o'clock this morning a tank containing acid used in making high explosives exploded. Three men were cut by flying glass, but none was seriously injured. The loss is about \$5,000.

## FOOD CONTROLLER QUILTS.

London, April 26.—Baron Rhonda, the Daily News says, has resigned his office as food controller, which he has held for two years.

**Press Asserts Nation May  
Become Second Belgium  
to Down England.**

**NEW DEMANDS BEING  
PRESSED BY BERLIN**

**Seeks to Bring About Quarrel by Demanding Nation Act Unneutrally.**

London, April 27.—Following the statement of Foreign Minister Louden to the Holland Senate that negotiations with Germany were not progressing satisfactorily, a dispatch from The Hague today declared the commander-in-chief of the land and sea forces of Holland has provisionally stopped all leaves of absence, thus maintaining the army and navy on war footing.

The Hague correspondent of the Times says Holland has given way to the German demand for use of the railway across the Province of Limburg, stipulating, however, that no military traffic must pass.

Another demand of an embarrassing nature connected with shipping facilities has been made by Germany. The Rotterdam correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says the Dutch government already has taken preliminary steps to bring into force certain military measures.

The German press is threatening Holland. The Taegische Rundschau of Berlin warns the Dutch that Holland may become a second Belgium; a place from which Germany may attack Great Britain. It warns the Dutch to seek cover.

The clerical German says the German demands upon the Dutch are calculated to restore in Holland the balance of that country, which lately has shown itself "too conciliatory toward the Entente."

Capt. von Salzmann, military critic of the Voessische Zeitung, says Holland can keep out of the war by "conscientious neutrality." But she must understand a day will come when German patience, already tried to the uttermost, will end. Von Salzmann is a spokesman for the German government. A landing in Denmark or Holland, he asserts, may come within a range of possibility in order to attack England's sea flank.

Germany is also threatening Switzerland, and may force that republic into war in an effort to attack the French right flank through the Alps. On threats of such a movement, are being made in some sections of the German press.

In Holland, Germany seeks a quarrel over the transportation of sand and gravel she needs for her machine gun "pill boxes." Her quarrel with Switzerland is sought on the question of the transit of coal, for which Switzerland depends upon Germany. Germany has been holding up Switzerland's coal supply in an effort to compel the Swiss to furnish the Germans with food.

**MARCH DENIES  
HOSPITAL SHIPS  
CARRY AVIATORS**

Washington, April 27.—Semi-official German statements charging that American aviators were being carried to France on hospital ships, registered as ambulances, were formally denied today by Major Gen. March, acting chief of staff, who branded the reports as "incredible falsehoods."

The German statements were contained in Wolff bureau telegrams published in Holland, saying that papers captured by the Germans on American aviators shot down behind the German lines proved conclusively that American aviators were carried to France on hospital ships. The denial by Gen. March supplements denials by British officials.

**CASUALTIES OF  
ENGLAND TOTAL  
18,369 THIS WEEK**

London, April 27.—Casualties in the British ranks reported this week totaled 18,369 as follows:

Killed or died of wounds—Officers, 408; men, 2,661.

Wounded or missing—Officers, 2,071; men, 13,229.

Despite the heavy fighting for more than a month the British casualties reported are only now beginning to approach the high figures for week after week last year, when the British were on the offensive on the western front. The increase recently has been on the average of 50 per cent. each week over the week preceding. Last week's figures were 12,368, and the week preceding 8,129.

**AMERICANS ARE  
CITED FOR VALOR**

Paris, April 27.—Eleven American ambulance men have won the war cross by gallant service performed during the battle now in progress.

Lieut. Ralph Richmond, commanding section 642, with Sergt. Junius Beebe, G. I. Harris, Henry K. James, E. A. Littlefield and John J. Fanning were cited in eulogistic terms for carrying away wounded men from positions right up against the enemy's lines under the heaviest fire.

Charles A. Read of section 625; Henry W. Holman, Johnson N. Hunsberger, Jr., and Herbert E. Purdy of section 594; and Jesse M. Beale of section 561 were cited in regimental orders for courage displayed on April 26th.

**HAVE SHIPPED  
THREE MILLION  
CARS OF COAL**

More than 3,100,000 cars loaded with coal were shipped from the mines of the country during this year to the end of the first week of the current month. The figures were issued by the Railroad Administration. Such number of cars equates one and a fifth times the total number in the United States. Set in a line they would extend 23,500 miles. Of course the same cars performed service many times over during the period.

There were 524,533 car loads of anthracite; 2,533,611 of bituminous and 52,454 car loads of lignite, making a total of 3,110,393. The showing would have been far greater had it not been for the weather severities during January which tremendously interfered with railroad and mine operations.

For the whole period of three months and a week, the shipments of anthracite were greater by 3,533 cars than for the corresponding period of last year.

While bituminous shipments average under usual conditions a little more than five times as much as anthracite, the car loadings for the period show an increase of only 1.637 cars, or no half the increase in anthracite. The anthracite industry is being well supplied with cars and is running virtually at maximum output with the reduced number of mine-workers available.

**AUSTRIAN PAPER  
CONDEMNS HUN  
ANNEXATIONS**

London, April 27.—"One thing is certain," says the Arbeiter-Zeitung of Vienna, as quoted in an Exchange Telegraph Co. dispatch from The Hague. "We are not going to allow Austrian blood to be shed, either now or later, to retain German conquests."

This statement is made in a criticism of Germany's action in the direction of virtual annexation of the former Russian border states of Livonia and Estonia. The newspaper asks whether the treaty concluded with Russia in Brest-Litovsk still is valid and adds:

"Germany's action will have to be paid for with another war as soon as Russia is strong enough. This, of course, is entirely Germany's business."

**FRANCE DECREES  
THREE MEATLESS  
DAYS A WEEK**

Paris, April 27.—The introduction of a system of three meatless days a week is announced in an official note. It is explained that the gradually dwindling reserves of frozen meat, the necessity of feeding part of the American army, and occasionally of supplying the wants of other Allies forces the government to draw more and more on French cattle stocks.

Unscrupulous intermediaries operating in local markets, some of whom realize a profit of 900 francs on one steer, according to the statement, will be prosecuted vigorously.

**PERSIAN PEOPLE  
DYING OF HUNGER  
IN LARGE TOWNS**

Petrograd, April 26.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press)—People are dying of hunger in the streets of the large towns of Persia, notably in Hamadan and Senne, says a despatch from Kazvin to the Rostovskaya Rech.

"The spectre of famine has become a fearful reality," the correspondent wrote. "To pass through two or three streets in Hamadan or Senne is enough to come upon two or three dead bodies. Here and there may be groups of women mourning over their dead. Here is a beggar woman—a mother with two children; one of them a baby in arms, is dead, and near the mother on the ground is another child dying. The mother herself is already motionless, with a frozen, unintelligent stare. The Persians, seeing that a human being is 'really' dying, shove some bread into the dying woman's mouth, but the belated help of course, does not save her life. The poor villagers throng from the villages to the towns hoping in vain to be fed there."

"Even in Kazvin, this more or less well-to-do town, it has more than once fallen to the lot of your correspondent to take up from the streets people stripped bare, who from exhaustion have been unable to move. Mothers sell their daughters, still mere children, in order to secure a crust of bread; wives of poor men are given to the rich that their families may be maintained."

"In Hamadan, a few days ago, sparks of a hunger riot broke out, and it was only the presence of Russian troops that stopped the movement, that was ready to embrace the whole country with its flames."

"There is a report that Kuchik Khan, that freebooter's chief, who lives in the forests near Resht, and has, under arms, about 30,000 mounted men, is only waiting to raise a revolt till the Russian troops leave."

"While trying to organize among the Persians, public aid for the suffering, I am brought up against the Persian indifference, or their government that is made impotent by bribery and corruption, of a truly Oriental character."

"The misery is almost irremediable."